

CHILD CARE SERVICES

(ASSIGNED TO WORK FIRST UNIT)

Mission:

To ensure safe, quality, accessible and affordable child care for children in Montgomery County, supporting the independence of families by enabling responsible adults to secure and maintain employment and meet the basic needs of their children.

Vision:

All families will have the understanding of quality child care and have resources available to select the most appropriate child care arrangement for their future. Adult members of the family will go to work each day knowing that their children are in a safe, nurturing, quality environment where they can learn and grow.

Objectives:

- Enable parents to maintain full time employment in order to support their family and achieve economic independence;
- Enable parents to participate in job training or educational programs that will lead to their employment;
- Provide child care to children receiving protective services (including children at risk of neglect/abuse);
- Provide child care to children in need of early intervention to enhance their development; and
- Facilitate the reunification of families, aid families in crisis, and prevent foster care.

Definition of Child Care Services

Child Care Services mean the provision of protection, care and developmental experiences to children ages birth through 12 years for a portion of the day but less than 24 hours. In certain circumstances, children through age 17 may receive child care services.

Montgomery County Social Services is the local purchasing agency that contracts with local child care providers. Information is provided to families and the community about what constitutes a good day care experience for a child as well as assists eligible families with the cost of the child day care service.

Who May Receive Child Care Services?

Parents, foster parents, or the adult responsible for the care of the child may apply for child care services. The application is made at the county department of social services. The Montgomery County Social Services offers assistance with child care cost based on:

- Need for child care
- Household size
- Household income

To be eligible for child care services the family must meet at least one of the five program goals listed above. Families must also be income eligible to receive this assistance. The family's gross income cannot exceed the state's maximum income eligibility limit for the number of persons in that income unit. Child care services to support child protective or child welfare services and child care for children in the custody of Social Services are provided without regard to income.

Overview of Subsidized Child Care

Using a variety of state and federal funds, North Carolina provides subsidized child day care services to a large number of eligible families. Child care services are provided in child care arrangements (schools, homes and centers) which have been approved to receive child care subsidies. Parents choose the placement for their child.